

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A document for an electronic catalog protocol disposed on computer-readable medium, comprising:

a first portion, the first portion having at least one method information selected from ordering method information and payment method information;

a second portion, the second portion having at least one entry selected from an offer to sell and an offer to buy, wherein the at least one entry is selectable by a user using the method information of the first portion; and

a third portion, the third portion having security information, the security information configured with the at least one entry selected and at least one method information selected for verification of the first and second portions by the user, and for authentication of a source of the document by the user.

2. (Previously presented) A document of claim 1, wherein the portions are capable of being distributed over a network to a plurality of servers connected to the network.

3. (Original) A document of claim 1, wherein at least one of the first, second and third portions has address information, the address information configured to permit remote access to the at least one portion having address information.

4. (Original) A document of claim 1, wherein the document permits the user to select between URL links and in-line data for presentation of multimedia content.

5. (Original) A document of claim 1, wherein the third portion includes a digital signature.

6. (Original) A document of claim 5, wherein the digital signature is a private key signature that corresponds to a public key.

7. (Currently amended) A document of claim 1, wherein elements of electronic catalog documents of different sources can be at least one of integrated, aggregated, assembled and disassembled to form a modified electronic catalog document, security information for the elements of the different sources being maintained in the modified electronic catalog document

and the modified electronic catalog document having additional security information for verification of the modified electronic catalog document.

8. (Previously presented) A document of claim 7, wherein authenticity of an element of a modified electronic catalog document is verifiable.

9. (Previously presented) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for verifying authenticity of an electronic catalog, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in a header of the catalog;

identify at least one entry selected from an offer to sell and an offer to buy in a body of the catalog;

locate a digital signature in a footer of the electronic catalog; and

verify the signature to verify the authenticity of the header, footer and body of the electronic catalog.

10. (Previously presented) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for updating an electronic catalog, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:

identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;

identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in the header of the catalog;

identify at least one of an offer to sell entry and an offer to buy entry in the body of the catalog;

initiate instructions for reading the elements of the electronic catalog to determine whether information therein is current; and

update the elements of the electronic catalog with current information.

11. (Previously presented) A computer program of claim 10, wherein reading the elements classifies elements according to time-stamps included therein, and wherein the updating deletes items which have expired.

12. (Previously presented) A computer program of claim 10, wherein reading the elements classifies elements as either modified or unmodified and wherein the updating modifies items which are identified as modified.

13. (Original) A computer program according to claim 10, further comprising:  
signature software for signing the updated electronic catalog.

14. (Previously presented) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for annotation of an electronic catalog, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:  
identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;  
identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in the header of the catalog;  
identify at least one of an offer to sell entry and an offer to buy entry in the body of the catalog;  
generate at least one electronic catalog source document from the elements;  
generate at least one compound document having elements similar to that of the electronic catalog;  
enclose the electronic catalog source document within the compound document; and  
provide an annotation section referring to entries in the electronic catalog source document.

15. (Previously presented) A computer program of claim 14, further including instructions for causing a processor to:  
generate a digital signature for verification of the compound document, wherein verification of the compound document does not prevent verification of the authenticity of the electronic catalog source document.

16. (Previously presented) A computer program, disposed on a computer readable medium, for assisting purchases and sales of a plurality of items according to a plurality of transaction types, the program including instructions for causing a processor to:  
identify elements of an electronic catalog, including a header, a footer, and a body;  
identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in the header of the catalog;

identify at least one of an offer to sell entry and an offer to buy entry in the body of the catalog; and

generate a sales-model tag in the header, for specifying the type of transaction for which the electronic catalog will be used.

17. (Original) A computer program of claim 16, wherein the sales-model tag supports at least one of one-to-one, many-to-one and one-to-many sales models.

18. (Original) A computer program of claim 16, wherein the sales model tag supports one-to-one, many-to-one and one-to-many sales models.

19. (Canceled)

20. (Currently Amended) A computer-based method of providing a verifiable electronic catalog, comprising:

~~providing a header section to identify sourcing information for a source of the electronic catalog and to identify at least one of ordering method information and payment method information in a header section of the electronic catalog;~~

~~providing a body section to permit object entries in a body section of the electronic catalog, the object entries corresponding to objects available for at least one of sale by and purchase by the source of the electronic catalog;~~

~~providing a footer section including information for verifying content of the header and body sections in a footer section of the electronic catalog; and~~

~~responding to requests formatting the sections so that they can be presented to a user for verification of the content based on the sourcing information and the information for verifying content; and~~

~~responding to by the user and for selection of objects for at least one of sale by and purchase by the a user in accordance with the at least one ordering method information and payment method information.~~

21. (Previously presented) A method of claim 20, further comprising:  
distributing sections of the electronic catalog over a network to a plurality of servers connected to the network.

22. (Previously presented) A method of claim 21, wherein the distribution of sections is via URL links.

23. (Previously presented) A method of claim 20, wherein the object entries permit the user to select between URL links and in-line data for presentation of multimedia content.

24. (Previously presented) A method of claim 20, further comprising:  
the source digitally signing the footer section of the electronic catalog to provide a digital signature.

25. (Original) A method of claim 24, wherein the digital signature is a private key signature that corresponds to a public key.

26. (Previously presented) A method of claim 20, further comprising:  
integrating sections of a plurality of electronic catalogs to provide an integrated electronic catalog.

27. (Previously presented) A method of claim 26, further comprising:  
providing for verification of the authenticity of the integrated electronic catalog.

28. (Previously presented) A method of claim 20, further comprising:  
assembling a plurality of electronic catalog sections to provide an assembled electronic catalog.

29. (Previously presented) A method of claim 28, further comprising:  
providing for verification of the authenticity of the assembled electronic catalog.

30. (Previously presented) A method of claim 20, further comprising:  
aggregating a plurality of electronic catalogs to provide an aggregated electronic catalog.

31. (Previously presented) A method of claim 30, further comprising:  
providing for verification of the authenticity of the aggregated electronic catalog.

32. (Previously presented) A method of claim 20, further comprising:  
disassembling an electronic catalog to provide a disassembled electronic catalog.

33. (Previously presented) A method of claim 32, further comprising:  
providing for verification of the authenticity of the disassembled electronic catalog.

34. (Canceled)

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35. (Previously presented) A computer-based method of claim 20, comprising:  
reading the sections of the electronic catalog to determine whether information therein is current; and  
updating the electronic catalog with current information.

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36. (Previously presented) A computer-based method of claim 35, wherein the sections of the electronic catalog include time-stamps, wherein reading the sections includes reading the time-stamps, and wherein updating includes deleting expired elements of the electronic catalog document based on the time-stamps.

37. (Previously presented) A computer-based method of claim 35, wherein the sections of the electronic catalog include an indication whether the sections have been modified, wherein reading the sections includes reading the indication, and wherein updating includes producing a modified electronic catalog based on the indication.

38. (Previously presented) A computer-based method of claim 35, further comprising:  
signing the electronic catalog after updating the electronic catalog.

39. (Previously presented) A computer-based method of claim 20, comprising:  
generating at least one electronic catalog source document from the sections; and

generating at least one compound document having sections similar to that of the electronic catalog;

enclosing the electronic catalog source document within the compound document; and

providing an annotation section referring to entries in the electronic catalog source document.

40. (Previously presented) A computer-based method of claim 39, comprising:

providing a digital signature for verification of the compound document, wherein verification of the compound document does not prevent verification of the authenticity of the electronic catalog source document.

41. (Previously presented) A computer-based method of claim 20, comprising:

providing a sales-model tag in the header, for specifying at least one of a purchase type and a sales type of transaction for which the electronic catalog will be used.

42. (Original) A computer-based method of claim 41, wherein the sales-model tag supports at least one of one-to-one, many-to-one and one-to-many sales models.

43. (Original) A computer-based method of claim 41, wherein the sales model tag supports all of one-to-one, many-to-one and one-to-many sales models.

44. (Canceled).